

REMARKS

This response and amendment is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated July 19, 2007 (hereafter "office action"), having a shortened three-month statutory period set to expire November 19, 2007 with a one-month extension of time to respond. The examiner had rejected pending claims 3 to 14 and 35 to 37 for the reason stated in the office action.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Secs. 102 and 103

The examiner rejected claims 3 to 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,982,424 to Simerly et al. (hereafter "the Simerly reference") for the reasons indicated in the office action. The examiner also rejected claims 13 and 35 to 37 under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being rendered obvious by the Simerly reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,657,077 to DeAngelis et al. (hereafter "the DeAngelis reference"). However, applicants have decided to instead amend independent claims 3 and 5 without prejudice to further recite that the automatic gain control circuit (AGC) receives the determined gain or determined gain values and the AGC has a gain splitter circuit that produces from or splits the determined gain or determined gain values into distributed gain values. New claim 38 and claim 5 further recite that the distributed gain values include at least the shutter gain, the analog gain, and the digital gain. The Simerly reference and/or the DeAngelis reference, either taken alone or in combination thereof, do not in any way teach or suggest such recited features an automatic gain control circuit (AGC) receiving the determined gain or determined gain values and the AGC having a gain splitter circuit that produces from or

splits the determined gain or determined gain values into distributed gain values. The cited prior references, either taken alone or in combination thereof, also do not in any way teach or suggest that the distributed gain values include at least the shutter gain, the analog gain, and the digital gain.

Thus, claims 3, 5, and 38, as respectively amended or added, are allowable. Dependent claims 4, 6 to 14, and 35 to 38 are allowable for at least the same respective reasons as their corresponding parent claims 3 and 5, as amended. Applicants have also amended claim 10 so that "the chip gain" has been changed to "a chip gain" in accordance with the suggestion of the examiner.

The specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed fully support the amended or additional claims. Therefore, the application with pending claims 3 to 14 and 35 to 38, as respectively amended or added, is now in condition for allowance, and allowance is earnestly solicited. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

A one-month extension fee is due by the filing of this Response and Amendment. Please consider this paragraph such a Request for term, and charge such fees to Cirrus Logic Deposit Account No. 03-2028/0876-CS-D1. Also, if any other fees are due by the filing of the enclosed documents, including any fees incurred by any other extension of term, please consider this paragraph such Request for additional term, and charge any

other fees associated with the Request or any other fees incurred by the filing of this document to Cirrus Logic Deposit Account No. 03-2028/0876-CS-D1.

Respectfully submitted,

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